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REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

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Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent Application Number 2002/0098831 A1 issued to Castell et al. on July 25, 2002 in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,580,907 issued to Hughes et al. on June 17, 2003.

Applicants have avoided this ground of rejection for the following reasons. Applicants' claim 1, as amended, now recites,

"wherein the one or more mailbox profile portions comprise a) at least one greeting, b) at least one distribution list of identifiers of the one or more users, and c) one or more addresses for one or more locations on the one or more storage devices that serve to allow the one or more of the one or more users to employ the one or more voice mailboxes on the one or more second voicemail system components to access one or more of the one or more voicemail messages on the one or more storage devices ... "

As stated in the Office Action, Castell does not teach or suggest the "copied" limitation as discussed in the prior amendment. In the Office Action, the Examiner equates Castell's "configuration information" to applicants' "one or more mailbox profile portions". However, Castell does not describe or define any of the elements that comprise the content of the configuration information. See paragraph 0026 and FIG. 2. Thus, Castell is missing "a distribution list of identifiers ... ", as recited in applicants' claim 1.

Hughes does not teach or suggest the limitation either. Instead, Hughes discloses that each currently registered user who subscribes to the voicemail service, relevant subscription information is recorded in a respective user-associated profile stored in the allocation register. However, Hughes, similar to

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Castell, does not describe or define any of the elements that comprise the content of the profile. Thus, Hughes, similar to Castell, is missing the "at least one distribution list of identifiers" element, as recited in applicants' claim 1.

Therefore the combination of Castell with Hughes does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicants' claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 2-13 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 14 and 16 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which was shown is not taught by the proposed combination of Castell and Hughes. For example, claims 14 and 16 recite, "wherein the one or more mailbox profile portions comprise a) at least one greeting, b) at least one distribution list of identifiers of the user, and c) one or more addresses for one or more locations on a storage device". The proposed combination of Castell and Hughes does not teach or suggest this limitation for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, independent claims 14 and 16 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claim 15 depends from claim 14 and claim 17 depends from claim 16, these dependent claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

New Claims

New claims 18-20 have been added. Claims 18-19 provide additional limitations directed to the distribution list. Claim 20 provides an additional limitation directed to the one or more addresses. No new matter has been added.

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Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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